Virginia

Ecological Services Field Office

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Purpose

Field office biologists work with landowners, private and community organizations, industry and other government agencies to conserve, protect and enhance fish and wildlife resources in Virginia. Their work is guided by the following laws and other related legislative authorities:

Clean Water Act

Endangered Species Act

Federal Power Act

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

Food Security Act

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

National Environmental Policy Act

Oil Pollution Act

Superfund (CERCLA)

Water Resources Development Act



Salt marsh

Highlights

The Virginia Field Office represents the interests of the American public in the management of federal trust fish and wildlife resources in the state in the following areas:

- Consults with and provides technical assistance to federal and state agencies and private landowners and businesses to conserve and recover populations of 59 federally listed threatened and endangered species.
- Provides technical assistance on water resources, instream flow and aquatic habitat restoration on Virginia's coastal and inland waterways and rivers.
- Reviews more than 2,000 federally funded, licensed or permitted projects each year to determine the effects on fish and wildlife, wetlands, endangered species and water quality.
- Investigates the effects of chemical contamination, hazardous waste sites and oil spills and works with EPA, Coast Guard and other agencies to clean up environmental contamination to protect fish and wildlife resources.

- Works with private landowners and state and federal agencies to restore and conserve wetlands, streams and upland wildlife habitat and to prevent the spread of non-native, invasive species.
- Works with the Department of Agriculture and state agencies to provide technical assistance and funding to farmers under provisions of the Farm Bill.

Issues

The federal review and permitting process can spark public and media interest. The Service works to educate the public on the importance of fish and wildlife resources to the quality of life in the United States.

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